

## MEMORIAL RESOLUTION

Ciprian Foias

1933-2020

Distinguished Professor Emeritus Ciprian Ilie Foias passed away March 22, 2020, at his home in Arizona. He had a long and truly distinguished career, having authored more than 500 research papers and 10 monographs (some of which were translated into several languages) and advised numerous postdoctoral associates, doctoral students, undergraduate students, and even high school and younger students. Ciprian put passion into all his endeavors and his enthusiasm for mathematics, and indeed for all intellectual pursuits, was contagious. He was generous with his ideas, which is one reason why he collaborated with more than 100 people and was always the focus of an active research group. As mentioned above, his interests extended beyond mathematics, and he contributed to areas as far afield as geology, biology, and economics.

Many details of Ciprian's life, along with numerous anecdotes, can be found in the obituary prepared by his family (<https://www.richardsonfuneralhome.org/obituary/Ciprian-Foias>) and the introductions of two issues of the *IU Mathematics Journal* dedicated to him (vol. 42, no. 3 and vol. 57, no. 8; see also the special issue of vol. 50). Here we provide just a brief outline of his professional career.

Born on July 20, 1933, in Resita, Romania, Ciprian studied in the mathematics department at the University of Bucharest. Between 1954 and 1978, he worked in that department (as a professor after 1966) and at the Institute of Mathematics of the Romanian Academy. During this time, he obtained his Ph.D., as well as the higher degree of 'doctor docent' in recognition of his scientific accomplishments and international recognition. He left Romania in a daring escape at the Helsinki International Congress in 1978. After a brief appointment at the University of Paris in Orsay, Ciprian accepted an appointment at Indiana University where he taught, eventually as a distinguished professor from 1980 to 2000. From 2000 to 2016, he worked at Texas A & M University, where he also became a distinguished professor in 2007.

In addition to the distinctions mentioned above, Ciprian's accomplishments were recognized in many ways. He gave invited addresses at International Mathematics Congresses in 1970 and 1978. He was a member of the Romanian and Hungarian Academies and received honorary doctorates from the Vrije Universiteit in Amsterdam and the University of Timisoara. For his work in applied mathematics, he was awarded the Norbert Wiener prize by the AMS and the SIAM in 1995. Ciprian's teaching at IU was recognized by the Rothrock Faculty Teaching Award. In 2000, he was the first recipient of the Bela Szokefalvi-Nagy Memorial Medal from the University of Szeged. The mathematics department at Texas A & M University has created the Foias lecture series, funded by donations from his colleagues. Ciprian's support for his students and love for teaching were also recognized at IU where the Ciprian Foias Prize was established in 1995 by Paul and Miriam Biss, to reflect "appreciation for Professor Ciprian Foias and

the Mathematics department for their generosity and talent in guiding the mathematical education of their son, Daniel Biss”.

Mathematics lost an exceptional talent and many of us have lost a cherished friend.

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